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**MEMO**

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**DATE:** 03-31-2004  
**TO:** FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
**FROM:** WILLIAM L HANKISON JR  
**RE:** AMATUER RADIO CHANGES

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My name is William L Hankison, Jr, call sign N3EMT. I am an amateur radio operator from Tappahannock, VA. I have a few comments on the changes proposed by the ARRL. I have been off the air for awhile because of various things. I was a young man when I first got my ticket and was active on 2 meters. I found that 2 meters was just not bringing enough enjoyment. I wanted to go to HF and work 20 and 10 meters very much since my grandfather, K4DHO, got me into amateur radio almost 20 years ago. I know that some people do not want to have to take a CW exam to get the HF privilege, and older hams still want CW as apart of the hobby (and service). I believe even as a younger operator that CW still has a place in this hobby, especially when it comes to emergency communications. If I can not hear you and you do not know CW how am I to communicate with you. Technology may have improved but it has not improved that much. I am looking forward to taking the CW exam one day, but I would like to experience the HF bands as well.

So how about this idea:

Technician (no code)  
2 meters  
6 meters  
10 meters  
20 meters  
80 meters

And keep the rest as proposed by the ARRL, but put the Technicians in a Technician Class, and put the novices, tech +s, generals and advanced licenses together in a General Class. Leave Extra Class License alone. I just thought this may be a balance for everyone both for and against any proposed plan.

Respectfully Yours  
William L Hankison Jr  
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WLH/WLH

03-31-2004